

named "*Maria macgregoria*." Unfortunately the generic term "*Maria*" has been already employed in zoology (Bigot, Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1859, p. 311 : Diptera), so that we do not alter Mr. De Vis's name, which is stated to be given at Sir W. Macgregor's "request."—EDD.]

XX.—*Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.*

Nos. XL.—XLII.

No. XL. (December 30th, 1896.)

THE thirty-ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of December, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, P. CROWLEY, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. J. ELWES, J. GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, E. C. TAYLOR, Major HORACE TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, W. F. URWICK, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : W. P. CRAKE, F. CURTIS, Hon. ALFRED HOOD, F. E. MUGFORD, F. TURNER.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the description of a new Bird of Paradise :—

LOBOPARADISEA, gen. n.

The type of this new genus differs from all others in having two wattles, which entirely cover the basal half of the beak, except a narrow ridge on the culmen. Size small; bill very broad at base, and short; feathers of underparts and rump decomposed and with a strong satiny gloss. No lengthened ornamental plumes. Tip of tail rounded.

LOBOPARADISEA SERICEA, sp. n.

Head brown ; hind neck and back rufous-chestnut, with a slight olive tinge ; rump bright yellow, with a beautiful silky sheen. Wings and upper wing-coverts ruddy chestnut ; primaries broadly tipped with black and having the shafts brick-red ; tail and upper tail-coverts reddish chestnut. Underside bright yellow and most beautifully silky. Thighs olive-brown. Under wing-coverts and underside of primaries brownish cinnamon. Bill with two large wattles reaching halfway down from the base, dull blue with yellow tips. Wing 91 millim., tail 58, bill 21.

Bought from natives at Koeroedoe, Dutch New Guinea.

MR. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited specimens of several interesting birds from the island of Samar, amongst which the following appeared to be new to science:—

PITHECOPHAGA, gen. n.

Probably most closely allied to *Harpyhaliaëtus*, of South America.

Bill very deep and much compressed ; the ridge of the culmen much curved, forming a perfect segment of a circle ; nasal opening a vertical slit at the margin of the cere ; lores and fore part of the face and cheeks covered with bristles only ; a full occipital crest of long lanceolate feathers ; legs and feet very powerful. Tarsi mostly naked, with a row of large scutes down the front ; sides and back reticulate, hexagonal scales on the planta very large, and terminating in three large scutes above the base of the hallux ; soles of the feet covered with rough papillæ ; claws very strong and curved. Wings comparatively short and rounded, the primaries being very little longer than the secondaries, the first primary-quill much the shortest, and the fifth probably the longest (tip broken). Tail very long, composed of twelve feathers and slightly wedge-shaped, the middle pair being about an inch longer than the outer pair.

1. PITHECOPHAGA JEFFERYI, sp. n.

Top of the head pale whitish buff with dark middles to the

feathers, which are rather narrow and pointed, especially those on the occiput, which form a long full crest. General colour above rich brown, most of the feathers with paler margins, especially the quill-feathers and wing-coverts; tail-feathers dark brown, the two median pairs with wide dark bands; shafts of quills and tail-feathers creamy white; underparts uniform creamy white, the thighs and long flank-feathers with reddish-brown shaft-stripes.

Total length about 33·0 inches; bill, greatest depth measured from base of cere to ridge of culmen 1·5, from base of cere to tip 1·5; wing 20·5; tail 15·0; tarsus 4·65; middle toe without claw 2·7, claw (measured in a straight line from base to tip) 1·45; hind toe without claw 1·8, claw 2·0.

“ Iris dull creamy brown, with an outer ring of brownish red, the two colours melting into one another and not sharply defined; face and base of bill dull french blue, tip of bill black; legs and feet dull yellow; claws black.”
(*J. Whitehead.*)

2. RHABDORNIS MINOR, sp. n.

Adult male. Differs from the male of *R. mystacalis* in having the general colour of the upper parts *reddish brown*, almost like those of the female, instead of dark greyish brown, and the bill much shorter. “ Iris reddish brown; bill black; feet dusky ” (*J. Whitehead.*)

Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·82, wing 3·1, tail 1·6, tarsus 0·72.

Adult female. Similar to the female of *R. mystacalis*, but smaller and with the culmen much shorter. From the male of *R. minor* it is only distinguished by the ear-coverts being brown instead of black.

3. RHABDORNIS INORNATUS, sp. n.

Adult male. Easily distinguished from *R. mystacalis* and *R. minor* by having the bill altogether stouter and stronger, the top of the head and nape uniform dull greyish brown; mantle brown, with whitish shafts only to the feathers; the lesser and median wing-coverts with well-marked white shaft-stripes; chin, throat, and fore neck greyish white; the

margins of the sides and flank-feathers much narrower and browner. " Iris dark brown; bill and feet black" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 6·2 inches, culmen 0·74, wing 3·2, tail 2·0, tarsus 0·8.

4. *ZOSTERORNIS PYGMEUS*, sp. n.

Adult male and female. General colour above brownish olive, brownest on the crown, each feather of which has a narrow whitish shaft-stripe; lores whitish; feathers above and below the eye blackish with white shafts; chin whitish; throat, fore neck, and chest grey, with white middles to the feathers, most marked on the throat; breast and belly white, shading into greyish on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts. " Iris bicoloured, outer ring red, inner pale yellow; bill slate-blue, black at tip; feet slate-grey" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 4·0 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·1, tail 1·55, tarsus 0·65.

This is much the smallest of the five species of *Zosterornis* now known.

Mr. F. PENROSE called the attention of the Club to some letters which had recently appeared in the 'Field.'

On November 28, 1896, the following paragraph occurred amongst the "Notes and Queries on Natural History":—
 "Swallows wintering in England.—A pair of Swallows remained the whole of the last mild winter at the farm of Mr. T. Whipp, Elton Wold, East Yorkshire, making an old large barn their headquarters. They could be seen out every fine day. The birds remained till joined by their friends from the south in the spring. On inquiry, I find none have been seen for some time this season.—G. C. SWAILES (Beverley)."

And the following paragraph in the next week's issue, December 5th:—

"Two Swallows hibernated last winter in a cowhouse at Healey Vicarage, near Masham, and the birds were frequently handled by members of the vicar's family. This is the only instance of such an occurrence that I have heard of in this locality.—JAMES CARTER (Masham, Yorks)."

Mr. Penrose thought that these two statements, and particularly the second, were of very great interest, so he had written to the Rev. T. Powell, Vicar of Healey, to ask him for further particulars, and had received the following reply:—

“I have pleasure in giving you the facts with regard to the hibernating of the two Swallows here last winter (1895-6). They were members of a very late brood of four hatched in a nest under the slates inside our cow-house. I may here mention that a pair of Swallows nest every year in the same place. The two Swallows in question were seen flying about by members of my family long after the other Swallows had disappeared. They finally lodged above the lintel of the cowhouse door, squeezing themselves into a small hole in the stonework, and thus escaping the draught. When I saw them the tail was the only part of their bodies that was at all conspicuous. My eldest son, then 16 years old, had them both in his hands at the beginning of last Christmas holidays, soon after his return from Bradford Grammar School. They were in a drowsy condition, and did not attempt to fly when he gave them the chance. On very fine days, as he informs me, he saw them flying about for about two hours in the middle of the day from 11 to 1 o'clock.

“One of the Swallows died some time in spring, the other left its winter-quarters shortly before the return of the Swallows (in April) and was a conspicuous object among its fellows during spring and early summer through having lost one of the forks of its tail. It mated with another Swallow, and they attempted to nest in the pigsty, which joins the cowhouse, but this came to nothing—the lowness of the roof of the pigsty most likely causing them to desist from the attempt. It is hardly necessary to add that last winter hereabouts, in common with the rest of England, was very mild.”

Mr. CHARLES E. PEARSON exhibited an interesting clutch of the eggs of the Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia cinerea*), which showed a remarkable pink tinge. These eggs had been obtained by Mr. F. B. Whitlock near Nottingham.

Mr. SCLATER read some extracts from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Villa Concepcion, Paraguay, Oct. 17th, 1896 (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. no. xxxviii. p. viii; *suprà*, p. 115). Mr. Kerr had arrived there from Asuncion about three weeks before, and was then about to leave for a Missionary station in the Gran Chaco, where *Lepidosirens* (the primary object of the expedition) were said to be abundant. A small steamer would convey him and his companion (Mr. Budgett) 12 leagues up the Paraguay to Carayá Vuelta, whence they would strike across the Chaco (some six days' journey) westward to their destination. Of birds, Mr. Kerr had observed in the neighbourhood of Concepcion (all quite common) *Geothlypis velata*, *Tachycineta leucorrhœa*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Paroaria capitata*, *Coryphospingus cristatus*, *Amblycercus solitarius*, *Cassicus albirostris*, *Aphobus chopi*, *Cyanocorax chrysops*, and *C. cæruleus* among the Oscines. Of the Tracheophonæ the most ordinary forms were *Tænioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Fluvicola albiventris*, *Pitangus bolivianus*, *Pyrocephalus rubineus*, *Myiarchus ferox*, *Milvulus tyrannus*, *Furnarius rufus*, *Phacellodomus striaticollis*, *Xiphocolaptes major*, *Picolaptes angustirostris*, and *Thamnophilus radiatus*. The commonest Picarians were *Colaptes agricola*, three species of *Ceryle*, *Crotophaga ani*, *C. major*, *Diplopterus nævius*, and *Rhamphastos toco*. The ordinary Parrots were *Chrysotis æstiva* and *Bolborhynchus monachus*. *Polyborus tharus* and *Cathartes atratus* were plentiful, and also five species of Herons. Amongst the Water-birds Mr. Kerr had noted *Phimosus infuscatus*, *Ajaja rosea*, *Chauna cristata*, and four species of Ducks, besides some well-known Rails, Plovers, and other Waders. A diving-bird, apparently *Plotus anhinga*, was very common all along the river. The heavy rains during the stay of the party at Concepcion had filled up all the swamps on the Chaco, which had previously experienced a prolonged drought of several months.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of a chick in down, a few days old, of the Crested Screamer, *Chauna cristata*, which had been presented to him by Mr. A. Holland, of the Estancia

Sta. Elena, Argentine Republic, and remarked upon its great general similarity to the young of the Anatidæ. Mr. Holland had noted the bill as dark brown, tip yellowish, iris black, and feet flesh-colour.

No. XLI. (January 31st, 1897.)

THE fortieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Lieut.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F. E. BLAAUW, J. L. BONHOTE, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. O. FORBES, E. HARTERT, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. B. SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, WATKIN WATKINS, H. M. WALLIS, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : Sir ANDREW N. AGNEW, Bart., J. ALLAN, J. CYRIL CROWLEY, C. B. GEDGE, PERCY JAQUES, Col. H. MURRAY.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described a new Francolin, discovered by Mr. F. J. Jackson in the Kikuyu district, British East Africa, as follows :—

FRANCOLINUS KIKUYUENSIS, n. sp.

Most nearly allied to *F. levaillanti*, but the middle of the throat suffused with chestnut; the feathers of the superciliary stripes and the stripes from the gape along the sides of the throat pale rufous, with narrow black edgings, very different from the boldly-marked black and white stripes in *F. levaillanti*. The patch of black and white feathers so conspicuous on the fore neck and upper part of the chest in *F. levaillanti* are represented by a much smaller patch with the ground-colour rufous white. The breast and

underparts are buff, barred with black, especially on the sides and flanks, the chestnut markings so conspicuous in *F. levaillanti* being at most merely represented by one or two scattered red spots on the outside flank-feathers.

Total length about 12 inches, culmen 1·45, wing 6·8, tail 3·1, tarsus 2·0.

A letter was read from Professor MENZBIER, correcting some errors which had appeared in the account of the new *Syrnium* described by him at the Meeting of the Club on October 21, 1896 (see Bull. B. O. C. no. xxxviii. p. vi; *suprà*, p. 113). The name of the species should have been printed *Syrnium willkonskii*, and the sentence "collari albo vel cinereo, etc." should read "colare albo vel, etc."

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Mr. J. T. Proud, of Bishop Auckland, a specimen of the Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli*) and two clutches of the eggs, obtained by the latter gentleman on the coast of Wales last year.

A paper was read from Dr. SHUFELDT on the attitudes of Loons and Grebes when on land. This paper was intended for publication in 'The Ibis.'

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition by Mr. Hartert the type of *Loboparadisea sericea*, which had been described at the last meeting of the B. O. Club, and which would be figured in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ'; also an adult and a young male of the remarkable *Nemophilus macgregoriae* (De Vis), and a series of skins of *Loria loriae*, respecting which he sent the following note:—

"Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, in Part VI. of his 'Monograph of the Paradiseidæ,' still leaves the identity of *Loria mariæ* (De Vis) and *Loria loriae*, Salvad., an open question. Since he had my series for comparison, I have had two more males, one from Mount Victoria, Owen Stanley Range, and one from the Arfak Region. The Mount Victoria bird shows the naked line very large and distinctly, and also that the apparent presence or absence of this character is entirely

due to preparation. Thus I think no one can any longer doubt the identity of De Vis and Salvadori's species, which must stand under the name of *Loria lorix*, Salvadori."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of *Nucifraga brachyrhyncha* and *N. macrorhyncha* of C. L. Brehm. [For his remarks, see Bull. no. xlii. p. xxxi; *infra*, p. 265.]

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited and drew attention to *Certhia familiaris*, L., and *C. brachydactyla*, C. L. Brehm, the former being paler above, purer white below, and having a shorter bill. *C. brachydactyla* was darker and browner above, not so pure white below, and had generally a much longer beak. The former was the usual form in East Prussia, where Mr. Hartert had collected many specimens which were all true *C. familiaris*, while on the Lower Rhine, near Wesel, where the bird was very common, over 40 specimens, shot at different times of the year, were all typical *C. brachydactyla*. Also all the birds examined from Holland and Northern Westphalia were *C. brachydactyla*. But not everywhere were they so definitely separated. Even in East Prussia, *C. brachydactyla* had been found recently; and in Hesse, in Saxony, and in Silesia both occurred close to each other. At Schloss Berlepsch the true *C. familiaris* was found on the hills, but *C. brachydactyla* occurred in the valley, on the willows and poplars along the river. Mr. Kleinschmidt thought the former was an inhabitant of pine-forests, the latter more a bird of leafy woods, such as oak and beech, and of parks and gardens. This explanation was probably right, but in some places the forms did not seem to be so well separated as they were in Prussia and Holland, for example. However, as the note of the two birds was certainly different (as already proved by Brehm, Homeyer, Kleinschmidt, and others), and as the eggs of *C. brachydactyla* were mostly, though not always, more thickly blotched, they would at present better stand as species than as subspecies, until it might turn out that they intergrade completely in certain places. The British bird was *C. brachydactyla* in a slightly differentiated form, and *C. familiaris* did not seem to occur in England at all.

Mr. SCLATER read an extract from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Waikthlatimungyalwa, in the Chaco Boreal of Paraguay (lat. 23° 30' S. approx.), in which he stated that his time had been fully occupied since he had arrived there (from Concepcion) with researches upon *Lepidosiren*, which was very abundant. He had, however, observed many birds, amongst which were *Turdus rufiventris*, *Polioptila dumicola*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Saltator cærulescens*, *S. aurantirostris*, *Molothrus badius*, *Agelæus ruficapillus*, *A. cyanopus*, *Tanioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Machetornis rixosa*, *Hapalocercus flaviventris*, *Leuconerpes candidus*, *Colaptes agricola*, *Picus cactorum*, *Rhamphastos toco*, *Cornurus acuticaudatus*, *C. nanday*, *Pyrrhura vittata*, *Urubitinga zonura*, *Cathartes atratus*, *Ortalis canicollis*, and *Cariama cristata*, besides many others, and numerous Herons and Ducks. After the pressing work of collecting specimens of the *Lepidosiren* was over, he proposed to make some bird-skins, but, on the whole, the avifauna here appeared to be poorer than on the Pilcomayo.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a specimen of a new Paradise-bird sent to be figured in 'The Ibis' by Mr. De Vis, and proposed to be named *Macgregoria pulchra*. It had large eye-wattles like *Paradigalla carunculata*, but quite different in shape, and the front was not naked, but covered with erect bristles. This species had been discovered by Sir William Macgregor on Mount Scratchley during his recent expedition across British New Guinea at an altitude of from 10,000 to 12,000 feet.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a drawing, by Mrs. Frederick White, of Georgetown, British Guiana, representing the nest and egg of the Demeraran Cock-of-the-Rock, *Rupicola crocea*, of natural size, being one of the specimens obtained by Mr. C. A. Lloyd on the Pizara River (see 'The Ibis,' 1896, p. 429, quoted from 'Timchri'). Mr. Sclater observed that the egg of *Rupicola peruviana* had been described and figured by Goudot (Mag. de Zool. 1843, Ois. pl. 37) and by Salmon (P. Z. S. 1879, p. 519), but that he was not acquainted with any previous information as to the nesting

of *R. crocea*, except that of Schomburgk ('Reise,' ii. p. 432).

As regards the drawing, Mr. Quelch remarked:—"It is of the exact natural size in every respect. The fibres and twigs of which the nest is composed are clearly shown, together with the outer gum-like lining, which serves to bind the edges of the nest together and to attach it to the rocks. The blotches on the egg are also very carefully represented."

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a coloured drawing representing the nest of a Guianan Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) of the natural size, drawn by Mrs. George Garnett, of Georgetown, and forwarded to him by Mr. Quelch. He called attention to its resemblance to the nest of *P. sancti-hieronyni*, Salvin, figured in the P. Z. S. for 1863, p. 191, and read the following notes upon it, extracted from Mr. Quelch's letter:—

"This figure is also of the exact natural size and shape. The nests are built attached on the top to a beam, pendent vertically, the aperture being at the bottom.

"The material used in two nests observed was the fine silky fibres from the dried fruit or seed of one of the silk-cotton-trees (*Eriodendron*, sp. inc.), the nest being very soft and warm. The eggs are placed in a little cup-like shelf on one side, at the very top, where the birds would almost touch the few fibres against the beam. There were two young ones in the nest when taken, and one escaped, being strong enough to fly.

"The cross section of the nest is not round, but oval, and the eggs lie on a shelf in one of the sharp curves. One curious thing in connection with one of the nests was that there were no silk-cotton-trees from which the silky hairs or fibres could be obtained for a distance of some miles from its position. The nest was taken from under a house in Leguan (an island in the estuary of the Essequibo) by Mr. H. Straker, sub-immigration agent."

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE sent an account of the occurrence of the Frigate-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) on the west side of Scotland. The bird, a female, was captured alive on

1st January of this year, by the margin of a stream on the west side of the island of Colonsay. Having been forwarded in the flesh to Edinburgh and identified by Mr. Clarke, it is now in the Scottish National collection, in the Museum of Science and Art in that city. The closing week of December last had been remarkable for a succession of south-westerly gales. This was the second recorded occurrence of this Petrel in European seas; and it was interesting to note that the first record was also for the west coast of Britain, namely, at Walney Island, in Morecambe Bay, where a specimen was washed ashore dead in November 1890.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a hybrid between the Pheasant and Black Grouse and a curious spangled variety of the Common Partridge.

The Club passed resolutions of sympathy with the family of Herr Gaetke on the death of that eminent ornithologist, and with Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown on the loss of the ornithological collections at Dunipace by fire.

No. XLII. (February 27th, 1897.)

THE forty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of February, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, DR. F. D. DREWITT, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. E. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, T. PARKIN, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: REGINALD BARRATT, R. A. CROWLEY, RUSSELL JAQUES, M. E. SIMON (Paris).

Mr. H. M. WALLIS exhibited a sketch, accompanied by notes from his diary, of a bird believed by him to be a Diver, which he had observed sitting in an upright position. In the discussion which ensued, the opinion of the ornithologists present was, that the Divers never assumed an erect attitude. Mr. Sclater said that, in the experience of Mr. A. D. Bartlett, none of the many Divers which had lived in the Zoological Gardens had ever attempted to stand upright. This was confirmed by Mr. Meade-Waldo, who had also kept several Divers in captivity.

Mr. T. PARKIN exhibited an egg which had been dredged by a trawler in Rye Bay, Sussex (*cf.* 'Field,' May 26th, June 2nd and 9th, 1894), and was supposed to be that of the Velvet Scoter, because birds of that species had recently frequented those waters. Mr. Parkin stated that, after a comparison of this egg with those of *Edemia fusca* in the Natural History Museum, it clearly did not belong to this species.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN sent the following descriptions of two new species of Humming-Birds, specimens of which had been obtained by Mr. O. T. Baron during his recent expedition to Peru :—

DIPHLOGENA EVA, sp. n.

D. hespero proxima, sed supra rufescentiore viridi, nucha et cervice postica nitente saturate rubris nec intense nigris, abdomine parte postica latiore rufa et cum tectricibus subcaudalibus pallidiore; rostro quoque longiore differt.

Hab. Succha, E. Peru, January to March 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

In my paper on Mr. Baron's birds (Nov. Zool. ii. p. 15), I referred several specimens of a *Diphlogena* from Succha, with doubt, to the Ecuadorean *D. hesperus*, Gould. None of them were quite adult. Mr. Baron's recent collection contains additional specimens, and amongst them one fully-adult bird which has the characteristic lilac thoracic spot.

The dark shining red colour of the nape and back of the neck in the new bird is in strong contrast to the deep black of these parts in *D. hesperus*, and, with the other minor

points mentioned above, proves *D. era* to be a distinct species.

The true *D. iris* occurs further to the eastward in Peru, and Mr. Baron obtained specimens of it at Leimebamba.

† *ERIOCNEMIS CATHARINA*, sp. n.

Nitenti-viridis, cervice postica, dorso antico et tectricibus alarum aureo lavatis, dorso postico et tectricibus supra-caudalibus nitide cæruleo-viridibus, his lætioribus, fronte cæruleo tineta: subtus micanti-viridis, gutture toto aureo lavato, abdomine medio cæruleo tincto, subcaudalibus nitide purpureo-cyaneis; cauda omnino viridinigra; rostro nigro. Long. tota circa 4·5, alæ 2·75, caudæ rectr. med. 1·3, rectr. lat. 1·75.

♀ mari similis, gutturis plumis ad basin albis plaga terminali magna viridi.

Hab. Leimebamba, E. Peru, July 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

Obs. *E. luciani* similis, sed uropygio et abdomine medio cyanescentioribus, cauda multo minus furcata facile distinguenda.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT stated that the names of the two *Nucifragæ* had been reversed in the note published in the last number of the 'Bulletin,' and that to avoid further misunderstanding he wished his full statement to be inserted verbatim:—

"Long ago C. L. Brehm had separated the *Nucifraga caryocatactes* of Linnæus into two forms, which he called *N. brachyrhynchus* and *N. macrorhynchus*, his *N. brachyrhynchus*, however, being the typical *N. caryocatactes* of Linnæus. British ornithologists generally, almost with the sole exception of Seebohm, who had acknowledged the two forms, had never believed in them. Prof. Newton, for example (*Dict. B. p. 647*), had declared that, 'as in the case of the *Huia*, this was now supposed to depend on the sex,' a statement which was certainly not right. Dr. Sharpe (*Brit. B. i. p. 17*) had said he had 'never been able to appreciate the supposed differences.' Mr. Hartert had frequently met with the thick-billed form in North-east Prussia, where he had found its nests and eggs, and had collected a large series of birds, and they were all thick-billed. This was *N. caryoca-*

tactes, L. The same was the case with birds from Scandinavia, the Alps, and the Hungarian mountains. All these birds were resident throughout the year and *did not wander*, while the thin-billed form, *N. macrorhynchus*, C. L. Brehm, which alone inhabited Siberia, frequently wandered in a south-westerly direction, and sometimes occurred all over Germany in great numbers. The differences of the beaks alone were sufficient to separate the two forms, but there were some other differences between them."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description of a new *Rhamphocælus*, which he proposed to call

†-RHAMPHOCÆLUS INEXPECTATUS, sp. nov.

Chin, sides of neck, head, hind neck, interscapulum, wings, with upper and under coverts, tail, centre of abdomen, and thighs black; rest of plumage bright yellow. This yellow is much darker than that of the rump in *Rh. icteronotus*, Bp., but not orange as in *Rh. chrysopterus*, Bouc. On the occiput are a number of scattered feathers bordered with yellow; this may or may not be the remains of immature plumage. Total length 155 mm., wing 82, tail 70, culmen 16, tarsus 20.

Hab. Panama.

Mr. SCLATER made some remarks on the specimens of bones of *Geopyornis newtoni* exhibited to the Zoological Society by Prof. Stirling at their last meeting.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE made some remarks on the Bernacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*), Brünnich's Guillemot (*Uria bruennichi*), and other species of birds observed by him in Spitsbergen.

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[Continued from p. 137.]

28. 'Aquila' for 1896.

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